

age of survival of its victims. For example, half of the children born with cystic fibrosis can now expect to live to age 21.

But this good news brings with it new hurdles. While people with cystic fibrosis are embarking on careers and assuming societal responsibilities to a greater extent than ever before, they do so in the shadow of a disease that remains progressively debilitating.

Therefore, the challenge remains to identify the cause of this disease and ultimately, we hope, to prevent it. Scientists are uncovering in greater and greater detail the metabolic defects involved in cystic fibrosis. By focusing on the unique physiology of people with the disease, researchers are getting closer to being able to identify its cause. In this effort, public awareness of the hallmarks and treatment of cystic fibrosis and of the importance of continuing scientific research are critical.

To enhance the public's awareness of this disease, the Congress of the United States, by Senate Joint Resolution 131, has designated the week of September 18 through September 24, 1983 as "National Cystic Fibrosis Week" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of that week.

Ante, p. 613.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning September 18, 1983, as National Cystic Fibrosis Week, and I call upon the people of the United States to observe that week by focusing attention on cystic fibrosis and the continuing efforts to clarify the causes of the disease and improve the treatment of its victims.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5102 of September 21, 1983

National Sickle-Cell Anemia Awareness Month, 1983

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Sickle-cell disease affects the health of some 50,000 to 60,000 Americans, most of whom are blacks. An additional two million blacks are carriers of the sickle-cell trait. Though the trait usually does not have clinical symptoms, it is very important in the genetic transmission of sickle-cell disease.

Since the early 1970's, the Federal government has conducted a National Sickle-Cell Disease Program. Coordinated by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, it promotes efforts toward prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of this disease. In addition, the National Institutes of Health have supported ten Comprehensive Sickle-Cell Centers throughout the United States. These facilities have been successful in developing unified programs of basic and clinical research, training, and community service directed at sickle-cell disease.

In the past decade, there has been substantial progress in research on sickle-cell disease. Diagnostic procedures have been greatly improved.

Measures to ameliorate the excruciatingly painful sickle-cell crises have been introduced for those afflicted with the disease. Our ability to combat life-threatening complications also has improved. Although much has been accomplished through this comprehensive national effort, more remains to be done to conquer this serious health problem.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of September, 1983, as National Sickle-Cell Anemia Awareness Month. I invite all Americans to join with me in reaffirming our commitment to reduce the burden of illness, disability, and premature death imposed by this disease.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5103 of September 22, 1983

American Business Women's Day, 1983

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The activities of American businesswomen have experienced a dramatic transition and expansion in recent years. More and more women are participating in every aspect of business—as owners, executives, professionals, support staff and production workers.

Women play an increasingly important role in the Nation's economy and in determining and implementing the direction of both the private and public sectors of our Nation. Women entrepreneurs currently are the fastest growing segment of the small business community, owning twenty-two percent of all sole proprietorships and realizing gross receipts of over \$40 billion. Women own businesses as diverse as coal mining, construction, manufacturing, and wholesale and retail trade.

With more options and choices available to them, women are realizing their potential as a vital force in the American economy.

Ante, p. 290.

In recognition that businesswomen are increasingly influencing the growth of our economy and the direction of our Nation, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 18 (Public Law 98-55), has designated September 22, 1983, as "American Business Women's Day" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of that day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim September 22, 1983, as American Business Women's Day. I call upon every American to join me in observing this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN